

The Southwester

Be sure to
vote for SWNA
neighborhood
officers Sat.
Mar. 24 – see
Ballot p. 8

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April 2007

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Cherry Blossom Events in SW

With Near Southwest being the home of most of the Cherry Blossom trees blooming during the Mar. 31-Apr. 15 festival, many activities are within walking distance of SW residents.

Sat. Mar. 31 – Smithsonian Kite Festival at the Washington Monument at 17th St. SW 10 am to 4 pm.

Sat.-Sun. Mar. 31, Apr. 1, Apr. 7, 8, 14, 15 – High Tea on a yacht on the Potomac, Washington Marina, 1300 Water St. SW 11:30 am-1:30 pm and 2-4 pm \$60 adult, \$30 under 12, (202) 554-0677.

Sat.-Sun. Mar. 31, Apr. 1, 7, 8, 14, 15 – View Cherry Blossoms from the water on a small ferry boat. Leaves every 2 hours, 9 am-5 pm, Washington Marina, 1300 Water St. SW, \$20 adult, \$15 under 12. (202) 554-0677

Sat. Apr. 7 – Musical Prelude to Fireworks on the Southwest Waterfront, outdoors at 600 Water St. SW FREE. 5-8 pm.

Sat. Apr. 7 – Cherry Blossom Festival Fireworks Show, 7th & Maine Ave. SW, best viewed from SW Waterfront Promenade or East Potomac Park. FREE. 8:30 pm

Sat. Apr. 7 – Phillips Dessert & Coffee 900 Water St. SW \$10 in advance 7-10 pm, (202) 488-8515 ask for Debbie Morroni.

Sat. Apr. 7 – Fireworks Cruise on the Spirit of Washington, 6th & Water St. SW, \$90. 7:30 pm (202) 554-8000.

Mon. Apr. 9 – Chamber Music Concert, St. Augustine's Church, 6th & Maine Ave. SW. FREE 7:30 pm

Sat. Apr. 14 – Parade, Constitution Ave. 7th to 17th NW, 10 am FREE except grandstand seats.

Sat. Apr. 14 – Japanese Street Festival, Pennsylvania Ave. and 12th St. NW, +11 am – 6 pm FREE.

Where Will Baseball Fans Park On Game Days?

On Thursday, Mar. 29, the Washington Nationals will tell the SW/SE neighborhood where the fans will park and what routes they will drive getting to the afternoon or evening baseball games starting a year from now, Apr. 2008.

At Southeastern University, 6th & I (Eye) St. SW, at 6:30 pm on Mar. 29 the DC Police, DC Dept. of Transportation, the team owners and the DC Sports & Entertainment Commission (and hopefully METRO officials) will bring everyone up to date on "initial recommendations" so far.

Advance drafts of their plans – as given to the Nov. 27 meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly at St. A's Church - including maps of car parking lots in SW and SE - appeared in the Dec. 2006 Southwester. As reported there, a sellout crowd at 7pm on a week night will need parking for 13,700 fans coming in 4,700 autos. Another 15,700 will come by transit – mostly at Metro's Navy Yard Metro Station – although 3,900 are



View of ballpark construction

expected to use other stations - the orange line/blue line station at Capitol South for the most part.

Because fans can be expected to park as far away as a 15 minute walk, residents of Near Southwest and Capitol Hill will be given special permits to put in their car

windows giving them the right to park in front of or near their homes. New signs along the SW and Capitol Hill residential streets will warn ball fans that they can't use curb parking when heading for a game.

Anacostia Waterfront Corporation
Environmental Standards Development Committee
Draft Environmental Standards – February 2007

RESTORE and REVITALIZE

Water Air Habitat Community



“Don't Abolish Waterfront Agencies”: ANC 6D

SW/SE Advisory Neighborhood Commission ANC6D took a unanimous stand against Councilmember Jack Evans' plan to abolish the two agencies that have responsibility for 3 billion dollars in Near Southwest/Southeast construction projects. See testimony on page 5. (See related story on Neil O. Albert, Interim President, CEO of AWC p. 4 and AWC Environmental Standards p. 10).

Continued on Page 5

Mar. 26 SWNA Annual Meeting

The Mar. 24 election results for SWNA Board, annual reports of officers and task forces and reports on construction in SW/SE including Waterfront at 401 M St. SW, are on the agenda for the Mon. Mar. 26 annual meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc. at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 6th and M St. SW at 7:30 pm.

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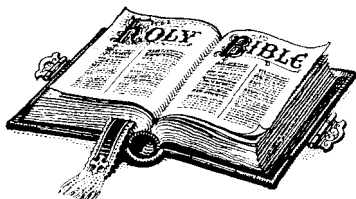
SEU Teaches Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint

Four-hour-long classes in four of Microsoft's software programs are being offered at Southeaster University at 501 I (Eye) St. SW in midday on Fridays in Apr., May and June.

At \$75 each four-hour class, there are separate classes for beginner, intermediate and advanced levels for each software program.

To register, call (202) 478-8231 or visit the website www.seu.edu.

RELIGIOUS NEWS



SW DC Cropwalk on April 28th Walk to benefit the hungry

The churches of SW Group Ministry are organizing a sponsored walk, CROPWALK, on Saturday afternoon, April 28, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The walk will begin at Christ United Methodist Church at 4th and I Street SW. The purpose of the walk is to raise funds for three groups – the South Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Hunger Solutions, a DC advocacy organization, and the Church World Service, an international relief and development work.

CROPWALKS take place in 2000 communities all across the United States and Canada, and raised \$16 million dol-

lars to fight hunger at home and abroad last year.

For additional information, please contact one of the churches participating in the event: Christ United Methodist, Riverside Baptist, Palisades Community, Shiloh Baptist, St Augustine Episcopal, St. Matthew's Cathedral, St. Dominic's and Westminster Presbyterian.

Contact: Cecilia Daly, 202-225-5543, Cdaly70242@aol.com

SW Chamber Music Concerts

Haydn's "Seven Last Words on the Cross" at noon on Good Friday, Apr. 6 and a new commissioned piano quartet at 7:30 pm on Mon. Apr. 9 during the National Cherry Blossom Festival will be featured on the next two concerts of the Southwest Chamber Players, celebrating their tenth anniversary. They have presented 120 free concerts over those years.

The Haydn work will be the first hour of the Good Friday service of St. Augustine's and St. Matthew's Churches.

The commissioned work is entitled "Ashlandia" and is based on American folk themes. The composer is Louis Gordon, an emeritus professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Other works on the program include Schubert, Aaron Copland and John Jacob Niles.

St. A's Asks Help For Front Door Ramp

The accessibility of St. Augustine's Church building for the many community meetings – official ANC meetings, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly monthly meetings and "Community Input" meetings for many construction projects planned for Southwest – requires a new ramp at the front door of the church.

Donations are being collected to help with that "above the budget" purpose.

Southwest Community Calendar April, 2007

WED. MAR. 21 AARP Monthly lunch. River Park community room, 1311 Delaware Ave. SW, 12 noon

WED. MAR. 21 Anacostia Waterfront Corp. public meeting at Ellen Wilson Center, 750 6th St. SE (Eastern Market METRO) about the Anacostia Riverwalk Trail and Parks. Open House 6 pm. Presentation/Discussion 6:30-8:00 pm.

THURS. MAR. 22 NARFE monthly luncheon meeting, SW Branch Library, K and Wesley Pl. SW, 12:30 pm

THURS. MAR. 22 Randall School Historical Preservation Review. 441 4th St NW

FRI. MAR. 23 Supreme Teens at King Greenleaf Recreation Center, First & N St. SW

SAT. MAR. 24 Public Election of officers and board members of The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Waterfront Mall, 401 M St. SW, 10 am-3 pm.

SAT. MAR. 24 Southwest Waterfront Clean up. 7th and Water St. SW. 9 am-1 pm

MON. MAR. 26, Public meeting – the Annual Meeting – of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, St. Augustine's Church, 6th & M St. SW. 7 pm

THURS. MAR. 29 River Park Friends public meeting to introduce groups receiving grants, River Park Community Room, 1311 Delaware Ave SW, 7 pm

THURS. MAR. 29 Ballpark area parking restrictions– public meeting by DC Sports & Entertainment Commission, SE University, 6th & I SW, 6:30-8:30 pm.

SAT. MAR. 31 - Sun. April 15 National Cherry Blossom Festival

SUN. APR. 1 - Sun. Apr. 8 Easter Week at local churches

SAT. APR. 7 Cherry Blossom musical prelude – 6th and Water St. SW, 5 pm

SAT. APR. 7 Fireworks of SW Waterfront., 6th & Water St. SW, 8:30 pm.

MON. APR. 9 SW/SE Advisory Neighborhood Commission ANC-6D meeting open to the public – St. Augustine's Church, 6th and Maine Ave. SW, 7 pm

THURS APR. 12 Second Thursday breakfast "neighborhood office hours" of

new Sixth Ward Council Member Tommy Wells, Channel Inn, 700 Water St. SW, 8 am

MON. APR. 16 DC Emancipation Day Holiday in DC. March from 13th & Penna. NW at 2:30 pm. Rally at 3rd & Penna Ave. NW at 4 pm.

TUES. APR. 17 Federal and DC income taxes due

THURS. APR. 19 Police PSA 104 community meeting, Potomac Place, 800 4th St SW, 7 pm-8:30 pm

SAT. APR. 21 Third Sat. Community breakfast, \$5, Christ United Methodist Church, Wesley Pl & K entrance across from SW Library

SUN. APR. 22 Book Signing, SW Library, K St SW & Wesley Pl. 2pm

MON. APR. 23 Southwest Neighborhood Assembly monthly public meeting, St. Augustine's Church, 6th & Maine Ave. 7:30 pm

FRI. APR. 27 deadline for applications for youth summer jobs. 625 H St. NE 5 pm

SAT. APR. 28 SW churches start out on Crop Walk from Christ United Methodist Church, 4th & I (Eye) St. SW 2-5pm

WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY

KOMEN TOASTMASTERS – First & Third Sat., S.W. Library, 10 am.

FIL-AM TOASTMASTERS – Second & Fourth Wed., S.W. Library, 6:15 pm.

SCHOOL ST. TOASTMASTERS – Every Tues., 400 Virginia Ave. S.W., Room 488 – noon.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS Club – First & Third Wed., Christ United Methodist Church, 300 block of I (Eye) St. S.W., 7 pm 202-291-6229.

S.W. KIWANIS – First & Third Mon., Christ United Methodist Church, 4th & I St. S.W., 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

NEW SOUTHWEST TOASTMASTERS – Every Wed. GSA Bldg – 7th & D St. S.W., Room 5009 (inside cafeteria), noon.

LABYRINTH WALK – First & Third Wed., Westminster Church, 4th & I St., SW, 7 pm.

Please submit calendar items for the next issue by Wednesday, April 4

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Southwester Staff

Dale MacIver & Carole Early, *Joint Editors*
Lida Churchville, Thelma Jones, Ron McBee,
Jean Macdonald, Barbara Murray,
Olga Woltman and Tanetta Isler, *Reporters*
Herbert Holmes, *Production Assistant*
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Wednesday, April 4, 2007.

Advertising Rates

1/16 page \$35 • 1/8 page \$70

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Additional cost for full color

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Ad deadline **Wednesday, April 4**

Continued on Page 3

RELIGIOUS NEWS



Musical at Friendship Baptist Church

(Excerpts from release from Friendship Baptist Church)

Friendship Baptist Church, celebrated Black History Month with a powerful musical production entitled "*Journey of the Spirit*" on Saturday, February 24th at Friendship Baptist Church located at 900 Delaware Ave., S.W., Washington, DC.

Journey of the Spirit is a musical journey of the struggles and strengths of African-Americans during the Slavery and Civil Rights Era. Program will open with an explosive and invigorating dance performance by *The Kankouran West African Dance Company* and ending with a commanding spirit filled grand finale. Music selections will range from powerful and moving spirituals to contemporary Gospel. Starring a talented cast of Friendship's youth and the Friendship Baptist Church Mass Choir. Written and directed by Antoine L. Lindley.

Easter Week at St. Augustine's Church & St. Matthew's Churches

Palm Sunday – April 1	8:30 am Community Breakfast 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Blessing and Procession of Palms
Holy Wednesday – April 4	12:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing
Maundy Thursday – April 5	6:00 pm Community Dinner 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Foot washing and Stripping of Altar 9:00 pm All-night Vigil
Good Friday – April 6	12:00 – 3 pm Three Hour Good Friday Service 12-1 pm First Hour – Solemn Devotions - Haydn's Seven Last Words on the Cross performed by The Southwest Chamber Music Players 1-2 pm Second Hour – Solemn Devotions - Dramatized Reading of The Passion Narrative by members of St. Augustine's and St. Matthew's 2-3 pm Third Hour – Solemn Devotions Stations of the Cross Adoration of the Cross
The Great Vigil of Easter - Saturday, April 7	7:00 pm Service of Festive Holy Eucharist
Easter Sunday - April 8	8:30 am- Community Breakfast 10:00 am Service of Festive Holy Eucharist Easter Egg Hunt after Service

Free Tax Help At SW Library

Through April low and middle income taxpayers – especially those over 60 - can get free help from AARP volunteers preparing their 2006 DC and US income tax forms for filing by Tues. April 17. Hours for the volunteer advice are Mondays from 2 pm to 8 pm, Tuesdays from 2 pm to 4:30 pm, Thursdays from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm and Saturdays from 10:30 am to 4 pm.

You must bring with you as many of

the following as possible:

- Last year's tax return (for 2005)
- Copies of all W-2s, 1099 forms and proof of other income by you and your spouse
- Social Security cards or individual identification cards (ITIN) for you, your spouse and any others shown on the tax return
- Valid picture I.D.

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molly smith
artistic director

Neil O. Albert New Interim President, CEO of AWC

(from District release)

With the support of Mayor Adrian M. Fenty, the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation (AWC) Board of Directors appointed Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Neil O. Albert to serve as interim president and chief executive officer of the AWC. The appointment follows Monday's resignation of Adrian G. Washington as president of the corporation, chartered in 2004 to revitalize land and communities along the Anacostia River.

As Mayor Fenty awaits Council review of both AWC and the National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC) as well as the findings of a report analyzing alternative structures of the corporations, Albert will take on the unpaid AWC position effective immediately. Some of his duties will include:

- examining the organization's structure
 - assessing staff and leadership positions
 - driving development initiatives
 - reviewing AWC finances and budget
- "The board's decision to appoint Neil

Albert as interim president and CEO is an excellent reposition," said Mayor Adrian M. Fenty. "Neil has been immersed in several AWC projects and is conversant in the corporation's mission and initiatives, and therefore will transition into the role with great ease."

According to Albert, "AWC has a vital role in the development of the District's treasured Southwest Waterfront.

I'm absolutely honored to serve as an interim president and will dutifully lead the organization in its mission to build economic development opportunities near the Anacostia River."

Southwest Waterfront Land Transfer Completed

The appointment comes on the heels of an important development negotiation this week. After more than two years of negotiations between the District, AWC and NCRC, the Southwest Waterfront



Neil O. Albert

land transfer has been completed. The highly anticipated agreement includes the transfer of District-owned properties to NCRC and the immediate transfer of all Southwest Waterfront properties from NCRC to AWC. Former Councilmember Sharon Ambrose and Councilmember Kwame Brown played an important role in the transfer process by clarifying the ambiguities within the original transfer statute. Mayor Fenty and Deputy Mayor Albert successfully finalized negotiations on behalf of the District and brought all three parties together for final execution.

District, AWC and JBG signs PILOT Agreement for U.S. Department of Transportation Headquarters

The District of Columbia, AWC and

the JBG Companies have signed a Payment-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILOT) agreement to secure the development of the U.S. Department of Transportation headquarters, a JBG-owned property. The PILOT will fund \$140 million in infrastructure investments for the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative. The revenue stream from the agreement will be dedicated to support District issued bonds.

These projects include:

- Southeast Federal Center
- Anacostia Metro
- Reservation 13
- Ward 7 Waterfront
- Marvin Gaye Park
- Southwest Waterfront

The initiative, spearheaded by Albert would not have been possible without the steadfastness of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes-Norton, Councilmember Jack Evans and former Councilmember Sharon Ambrose, who worked hard to authorize the PILOT in her last year in office.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Is Southwest Really Better Now?

By Thomas Seidman

Fifty years ago, Southwest DC (SW) was razed by the federal government using their debatable powers of eminent domain to clear the quadrant for "utopian" urban planners and developers. Most of the old-timers who have made SW home since then are quick to forget the ancient history, and slow on the uptake when it comes to realizing that they are now the victims of a new round of top-down urban planning and patronage. The results back then were mass displacements of predominantly poor and black folks, followed by the development of a mixed-income, integrated community, virtually unheard of in what was then regarded as a southern city. Despite the sordid back-story, it was the forward-thinking and diverse SW community, flourishing here from the 1960s through the 1990s, that attracted me to the neighborhood.

During the real estate boom in recent years, the ownership and management of rental properties, particularly those north of M Street, changed hands. In some cases, new owners and agents have maximized profits at

the premises by scrimping on services and quality. Other companies sought windfalls through condominium conversions which cleverly thwarted the intent of a 1980s-era District law intended to give tenants a right of first refusal to bid for homeownership when their buildings were up for sale. In extreme cases, developers leveraged the political cover of the DC Housing Finance Agency to convert simple rental housing into privatized housing projects in exchange for lucrative tax-breaks--so-called "affordable housing."

In the short-term, frenzied development in SW has benefited a few developers, sellers, and speculators, at least until the real estate market cooled. For most of the community, however, the long-term unintended consequences of vast development activities here have been dire. Foremost among demographic changes has been the flight of the working- and middle-class from a community that has since become bifurcated into uneasy enclaves of relative riches and poverty. Property tax assessments have risen while the neighborhood has become fractured, unfriendly, and more dangerous. So, are you better off than you were four years ago?

LOCAL NEWS

Read and Discuss A Book in April & May

Zora Neale Thurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God* has been selected for individuals and groups citywide to read from mid-Apr. to mid-May.

In a campaign called "Big Read," the Southwest Branch Library and other public libraries will have extra copies of the book for loan and will set up discussions during that time. The phone at the SW Branch Library is 724-4752.

Mar. 21 Info on Riverwalk Trail and Parks

A major section of the 20 mile trail being built along the Anacostia River will be completed this year. The Anacostia Waterfront Corporation is inviting the public to an Open House at 6pm and Discussion at 6:30 pm to learn about the walk and "the many new parks to be built along the Anacostia Waterfront."

It will be at the Ellen Wilson Center, 750 6th St. S.E, four blocks from the Eastern Market METRO stop.

SW Waterfront Clean-up Sat. Mar. 24

PN Hoffman, prime re-developer for the SW Waterfront, is sponsoring a cleanup on land of the Southwest Waterfront area from 9 am to 1 pm Sat. Mar. 24. Meet at the Spirit of Washington, 6th and Water St. SW. Food, beverages and a gift provided. Call 202-686-0010 for information.

Sassy Seniors at the Rec

Senior Citizens have regular programs each weekday between 10 am and 2 pm at King-Greenleaf Recreation Center, First and N St. S.W. **Kim Campbell** is the staff member Call her at 645-7454 for information or to register.

Special programs in March and April 2007

Wed. Mar. 28 Basic Home Repair Workshop, 10:30 am
 Fri. Apr. 6 Trip to Value Village Thrift Store & Walmart – 10 am
 Fri. Apr. 13 Trip to AMF Bowling Alley (Marlow Heights, MD) 10 am
 Mon. Apr. 16 Grandparents Workshop 11 am
 Wed. Apr. 25 Basic Home Repair Workshop 10:30 am

Regular weekly schedule (Fridays are field trip outings)

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10 am to 11 am	Low impact aerobics/weights	Chair aerobics	Line dancing	Chair aerobics
11 am to 12 noon	Card, table & board games	Basic computer instr.	Card, table & board games	Tennis Lessons
12 noon to 2 pm	Card, table board game	Crocheting, Sewing	Pot luck	Prize bingo

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Support For Waterfront Agencies

From p. 1

The text of ANC6D testimony against abolishing AWC, NCRC)

Testimony of Andy Litsky, Vice Chairman of ANC-6D

Before the Committee on Economic Development

Hearings on B17-022 "NCRC and AWC Reorganization Act of 2007"

March 13, 2007

Mr. Chairman and Councilmembers, my name is Andy Litsky, and I am Vice Chairman of ANC-6D representing the Southwest Waterfront and Near Southeast. It is in our ANC where the AWC and NCRC have most of their major projects.

The Anacostia Waterfront Corporation has development authority over all of the land in our Waterfront ANC along the Washington Channel and along the eastern shore of the Anacostia River. They now have — at long last — development authority over the SW Waterfront area plan adopted by this council 3 years ago. They also have authority over significant acreage in Near SE.

NCRC, in one corporate entity or another, has been involved in our SW community for years — most directly in their management of properties at the Marina and along SW Waterfront. Currently, they are involved in a partnership arrangement with Waterside Partners — Forest City Washington, the Charles E. Smith Companies, and Bressler and Reiner — in the redevelopment of Waterside Mall, the most important construction project in our community in four decades.

Every one of our 13,000 residents will be greatly impacted by the actions of this committee — more than any other citizens in the District. Consequently, at a regularly scheduled meeting of ANC-6D on March 12, 2007 we unanimously adopted a resolution to oppose the legislation as presented.

ANC-6D is concerned that as this legislation, as it is currently written, treats both corporate entities — NCRC and AWC — equally. They are not equal. As different organizations, the merits of each should be considered separately and a plan of action for each should be advanced separately in the legislation. We urge the Council to divide the question.

ANC-6D believes that this is legislation is putting the cart before the horse. There is no doubt that each of these organizations needs a thorough review to resolve outstanding concerns. But summarily dissolving these corporations is not the way to go about repairing what's broken. That simply shifts the burden to another entity. Fix what's broken first. While both of these patients may need hip replacements, let's try to get them up and walking before

we decide to euthanize them.

ANC-6D believes that the review of these two organizations currently underway by the Fenty administration needs to be completed so this Council has the facts that it needs prior to enacting this legislation. As of three weeks ago, Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Neil Albert has been serving as the acting president of AWC. He told the Committee on Economic Development on March 8 that he is conducting a thorough analysis of AWC. Please wait until all of the facts are in before the committee renders its verdict.

ANC-6D believes that the legislation is too sparsely written. Intent makes headlines but hardly constitutes directed legislation. The enabling legislation that created AWC was more than one hundred pages long. A two page bill that seeks to dissolve it is insufficient absent a clearly articulated plan on how its duties and those of NCRC will be discharged and under what specific authority. The Council last year passed a billion dollar plan to renovate and repair DCPS, but now there is a disagreement about who has that contracting authority. We don't need that same lack of specificity about how hundreds of millions of dollars of city-owned land will be developed and managed. To simply state that everything is transferred to the Mayor is to leave this decision up in the air and, we believe, would be legislatively irresponsible.

ANC-6D also requests that the Council weigh the fiscal impact of absorbing the duties — and the employees — of these two corporations back into District government, if that is the intended plan. The Council needs to determine the specific impacts on District finances of property, personnel, office space, and yes, even the consulting contracts, that will be necessary for the functions of these two entities to be carried out under different management.

ANC-6D is also concerned that this bill is moving forward without a clearly articulated plan for assessing what the impact will be on the major projects currently underway along our Southwest Waterfront, in Near SE, and in other areas on both sides of the Anacostia River. We feel that the dissolution of AWC, which has only been in existence for three years, might unintentionally create a number of unforeseen circumstances the most important of which would be a veering away from the AWC's significant and consistent support for the environment including enhanced storm water management and green building requirements for developers. Additionally, we are concerned that the broad vision of AWC will be lost as well as all of the conclusions coming out of five years — beginning with AWI — of community outreach, charrettes and scores of public meetings in four wards

on both sides of the River. And, finally, we are most concerned that as the unified vision of the twenty year Anacostia Waterfront Plan is disbanded, that much valuable District land currently within in the portfolio of AWC will be — parcel by parcel — granted to certain favored developers at little or no cost and even less analysis of how such a land transfer will affect adjacent communities or the fragile environment of the Anacostia Watershed.

ANC-6D is also concerned that the dissolution of these corporations — especially AWC — may also throw into chaos development plans in SW. We need Council assurances that the plans for the long awaited development of the SW Waterfront will remain intact. The Southwest community has invested fifteen years of time, money and human capital, working with city planners, elected officials, and the Urban Land Institute which our community hired for \$100,000 to help us advance our thinking on best use of that valuable asset. What a terrible turn of events it would be for all of that work to be for naught and, perhaps, for political pressure to be exerted that might even reverse it.

Finally, if we are to have these two corporate entities dissolved, ANC-6D and the residents of this city will have to be

assured that we won't soon be singing the all-too-common refrain from The Who, "Meet the new boss same as the old boss..."

For that to be the result of this legislation would not be foresight it would be folly.



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Baseball Job Fair At DC Armory Mar. 3

Event staff, concession workers, cooks and runners were among the jobs offered at a recent baseball job fair at the DC Armory.



Job seekers lined up for interviews at the DC Armory

Jobs for the third season of the Washington Nationals baseball team games were featured at the Armory.



Coordinating Community Benefits: An Open Invitation

**(Next CBCC open meeting
Thurs. Apr. 19 at SEU)**

Since September 2005, a group of residents has met regularly to discuss specific benefits our community could derive from neighborhood redevelopment and equally important, how community leaders/residents could work closely together to achieve these benefits.

The Near Southeast/Southwest Community Benefits Coordinating Committee (CBCC) brings together local Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (ANC 6D), board members from the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA), representatives of the South Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative (SWWR), local church leaders, and concerned citizens. Recently we have begun a series of productive discussions with Tommy Wells, our new Ward Six City Councilmember, who has expressed an interest in working with this community collaborative effort.

Our community must continue to include a diversity of race, income levels, and housing types. Anyone living here now must have the right to stay here after the many redevelopment activities in our SW/Near SE Communities have been completed.

Community benefits can cover a wide range, from affordable housing to jobs

and workforce development, to aid for our neighborhood schools, to space for community activities and civic organizations. But only by coordinating our demands can we ensure that developers provide our community with these benefits, and not just what developers want to give us. We are looking to build relationships with these developers that will monitor and ensure these community benefits are fully realized and maintained.

Together we exchange information, advice, and support. We are also developing a shared set of priorities so developers and politicians hear a clear, consistent message from our community. These priorities will also go far in assisting our legal and civic entities when they may have to take the lead in specific negotiations. The SW Neighborhood Assembly Board recently voted to support a jointly sponsored Community Benefits Meeting with the ANC6D and the wider community to get input from all quarters of SW/Near SE.

The CBCC meets monthly. Join us! The next meeting will be on Thursday April 19 at 7:00 at Southeastern University, 6th and I (Eye) St. SW. For further information, call SWNA Board member Ken LaCruise (202-554-7011) or Ruth Hamilton, Chair of the Board of SWWR Collaborative (202-484-7700).



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on the Southwest Waterfront
Saturday,
April 7 at
8:30 pm



Sponsored by

Fireworks display presented by PN Hoffman and Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse, the selected master developer of the Southwest Waterfront

For a complete schedule of Festival events, visit www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org

- Come to the Waterfront before the fireworks for the 4th Annual Prelude to the Fireworks**
- Highlights include
- Down Range, US Army Band
 - Ship's Company, Sea Shanty group
 - Spirit of Washington entertainers
- Kids will enjoy
- Origami and other hands-on craft activities
 - A chance to see the tiniest sail boat, courtesy of NMHF
 - Appearances from the Easter Bunny, McGruff the crime fighting dog & more

Southwest
Home of the Cherry Blossoms

Book signing for Rosemary Reed

By Thelma D. Jones

The Southwest Branch Library and the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly will host a book signing on Sunday, April 22, at 2 pm, 920 Wesley Place, SW, for Rosemary Reed Miller, fashion icon and owner, Toast and Strawberries which was located at DuPont Circle, Connecticut and Q Sts. NW, for over three decades. The book signing will feature a mini fashion show involving SW residents, a short slide presentation on the struggles and achievements of African America designers and a question and answer session. The program will last for 90 minutes.

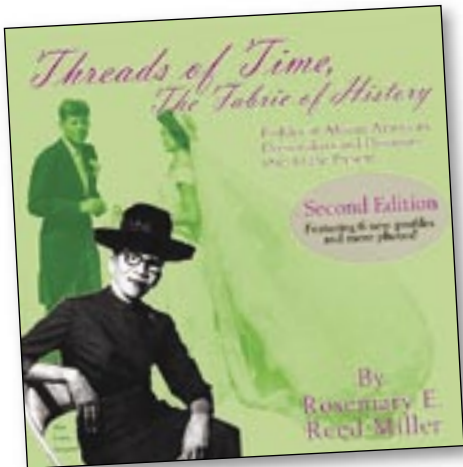
Reed's book "The Threads of Time, The Fabric of History" inspires and enlightens readers about the contributions of African American designers during the pre-

1960s. With more than 38 profiles, the book highlights such notables as Elizabeth Keckley, who designed for Mrs. Abraham

Lincoln. Mary Lincoln wears her dress in the First Ladies Exhibit which is now in the Smithsonian Museum. Also featured is Ann Lowe who designed Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy's wedding dress — the most photographed wedding dress in America's history. The book also talks about Zelda Wynn, who had the first black-owned

business on Broadway and designed the first Playboy costume. Wynn also designed outfits for popular stars such as Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Dorothy Dandridge, Josephine Baker, and Gladys Knight. It's a must have book. Come and tell friends!

Refreshments will be served. For information on the event, please call the SW Library at (202) 724-4752 or Thelma Jones at (202) 488-3746.



SWNA Ballot for Sat. Mar. 24 at Mall

Every resident of SW DC (zip code 20024) ages 18 and over can vote Sat. Mar. 24 at the tables at Waterside Mall for neighborhood officers and board members of The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly. Voters write their address on cards and are given a ballot for the district (1, 2, 3, or 4) in which they live. (See map on this page)

The polls are open from 10 am to 3 pm.

Write-ins are permitted, but not absentee ballots.



BALLOT

SWNA PRESIDENT
(vote for one)
Marge Maceda

SWNA VICE PRESIDENT
(vote for one)
Carolyn Mitchell

SWNA SECRETARY
(vote for one)
Margaret (Meg) Brinckman

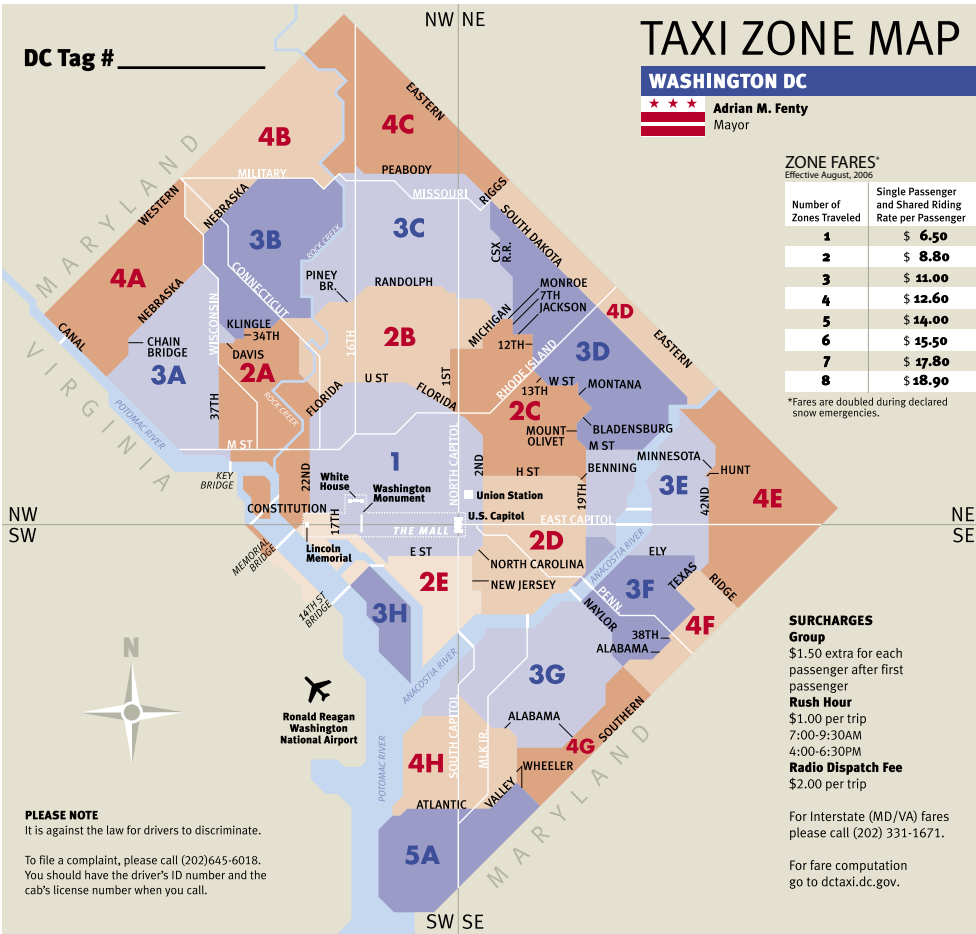
SWNA TREASURER
(vote for one)
Ellen Winship

IF YOU LIVE IN DISTRICT ONE
(vote for no more than two)
Lida Churchville
Perry Klein

IF YOU LIVE IN DISTRICT TWO
(vote for no more than two)
Farid Ben Amor
Peter Atlee

IF YOU LIVE IN DISTRICT THREE
(vote for no more than two)
Rick Bardach
Erich Hosbach

IF YOU LIVE IN DISTRICT FOUR
(vote for no more than two)
Ken LaCruise
Vanessa Ruffin-Colbert



New Map of Taxi Fare Zones

The District Department of Transportation has issued a new map (shown here) of fare zones for taxi-cabs. The four quadrants of the District are shown – Northwest, Northeast, Southwest and Southeast. Mayor Adrian Fenty is quoted in a release by the District Government, "If you're riding in a taxi cab in the District it is your right as a rider to have access to clear and concise map, zone and fare information. I am thrilled that DDOT worked quickly to redesign this map to help improve the riding experience for taxicab customers across the nation's capital."

The release states: Other features of the

redesigned map include:

- A list of updated fares reflecting the Taxi Cab Commission's newly-updated rates
- A cut-to-fit map that showcases the entire city, its borders and regional boundaries
- Identification of important transportation-oriented landmarks – such as Reagan National Airport and Union Station.
- The map also highlights major roads and historic landmarks in the District.

The new map can be found on the DDOT web site at www.ddot.dc.gov under "Information," click on "Maps" then click on "Taxi Zone Map."

Police, Citizens Honored

At its annual banquet on Mar. 3 at the Navy Yard Conference Center the SW/SE Citizens Advisory Council for Police District One gave plaques honoring service to the community by police personnel, businesses and volunteers.



Left to right, Ass'n't Chief Brian Jordan, Naomi Monk holding her award, First Dist. Cdr. Diane Groomes. Ms. Monk received the "Irv Gamza Award" for highest community service.



Three Board Members of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly at a table reserved by SWNA: Carolyn Mitchell, Ken LaCruise, Vanessa Ruffin. Ms. Ruffin received an award for community service. Several other Board Members also attended.

Id Zone

SW Child Development Center Has New Home

By Thelma D. Jones

With the rebuilding of St. Matthews Lutheran Church at 222 M Street, SW, the future of the Southwest Child Development Center (SWCDC) was a concern for the staff and parents.

Now, the center is operating at 60 I Street, SW (lower level of Bethel Tabernacle Church). "This is a big relief for the staff and the parents knowing that we have relocated to a location nearby," said Maggie Lewis, Director, since the Center's inception.

Currently, the center has 27 children, including 14 months to five year-olds. At the new location the center can accom-

modate 48 children and are currently accepting applications for 14 months to four-year olds. "Accommodating more children, especially infants, is a plus, as this is where the need is the greatest and most difficult to find," said Lewis. Parents interested in placing their children at the center should call (202) 488-3677. Regarding staffing, the center has eight full-time staff that is trained in early childhood development with Associate Degrees or as Child Development Associates (CDAs). The center's open house is planned for April and a wish-list of items will be provided as a way of maintaining community support and ensuring that they have the essentials to maintain quality care for the children.



SEU at Amidon School

Sixth Graders at Amidon Elementary School, next to Southeastern University on I St. SW, learned about entrepreneurship when SEU's Catalina Ford paid a visit. The students learned about inventory, marketing, target audiences and what "capital" means.

Shakira Thomas Receives RPF Grant

By Thelma Jones

Since its inception in 1998, River Park Friends has awarded grants totaling more than \$46,000 to organizations serving near Southwest. These grants have been for community development, educational and charitable projects with one of its primary grant recipients being the SW Scholarship Fund. This is the fifth year that River Park Friends has awarded \$1000 to the Scholarship Fund for a deserving college-bound Southwest youth. Shakira A. Thomas, a Wilson SHS graduate, is the proud recipient of the 2006 award. Enjoying her second semester at Trinity University here in DC, Shakira is a communications major with her eyes set on broadcast journalism, a journey she began at her alma mater. She completed a course on TV/Radio Production and served as an announcer for the Wilson's Tiger Radio and interned at American University WAMU-AM radio station. A well-rounded and energetic young lady who has a knack for helping others, Shakira served as a member of For Love of Children Neighborhood Tutoring Program while at Wilson. She maintained a 3.0 GPA, enrolling in Advanced Placement English Composition and enjoying extra curricular activities in both the art and drama clubs at Wilson. It was not all work and no play for Shakira, for she had a way of stepping to her own beat. As captain of Wilson's majorette team and a skilled dancer, she has secured a spot on Trinity University's dance team where she was one of 9 selected out of 30 girls, no



Shakira Thomas

small feat. Shakira became a member of Best Friends Foundation at Jefferson JHS and later became a Diamond Girl.

And what does Shakira love the most about college? She beams like a laser and says: "It's the freedom and independence. There's nobody around to tell you what to do, and it's just fun being your own boss. I just love college and wish that every student could have this experience and someone who believes in you like the SW Scholarship Committee and River Park Friends." For additional information about River Park Friends grants to community organizations, please contact President Coralie Farlee at (202) 554-4407 or cfarlee@mindspring.com.

Supreme Teens Night Out

At King Greenleaf Recreation Center Fri. Mar. 23 another "Teen Night" for youth ages 13-19 will be held. Teen Nights are held on different Fridays at recreation centers throughout the District. Transportation can be arranged. The phone no. at King-Greenleaf Rec is 645-7454.

Youth Jobs Deadline Apr. 27

The Department of Employment Services (DOES) is dedicated to helping District youth make a smooth transition into the workforce. The 2007 Passport-to-Work Summer Youth Program (SYP) offers 11,000 District youth ages 14-21, an opportunity to participate in a six-week temporary job readiness and academic enrichment program.

Registration for the 2007 Summer Youth Employment Program will begin on February 12, 2007 and end on April 27, 2007. Interested youth must complete the 2007 Application and Certification and Consent Forms. To register, youth are required to bring proof of their District residency, date of birth, citizenship/per-

manent residency, and Social Security Number. Students who are in grades 7 through 12 must bring a copy of their current report card.

- 2007 Summer Youth Application*
- Certification and Consent Form*
- Application Guidebook*

Registration will take place at the Department of Employment Services' Office of Youth Programs, at 625 H Street, NE, 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday.

The six-week summer program will begin on Monday, June 25 and end Friday, August 3. Youth who have registered and are hired will receive worksite notifications before the June 25 start date.

Sponsors Sought For Summer Meals

The District is signing up sites where two meals a day will be given "to District children (18-years-old or younger) in low-income areas or to people with disabilities," during the summer "when they don't have access to school lunch or breakfast," according to a release from the District. Public schools in Near Southwest record a high number of children from families with income within the US Dept. of Agriculture guidelines. Last summer in SW some sites served only children enrolled in a summer program and some were available for walk-ins. "Community and faith based organizations, housing facilities, schools and government agencies serve a vital role as sponsors and host sites for the Free Summer Meals Program." Deadline for applying to be a host site is Friday, May 11. For information call (202) 724-7864.

LOG ON TODAY! www.swdc.org

Schools, Groups Share Black History at SWNA

The Feb. 26 meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc., celebrated Black History Month with performances by school children and information talks and booths by several local organizations.



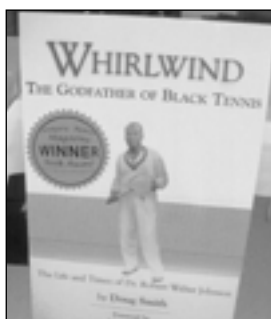
Students from Life Pieces to Masterpieces explained their program.



Working robots built by Jefferson Jr. students accompanied the poster of their Robotics Team.



Bowen School Principal Hawkins presents two students at the SWNA meeting.



Author Doug Smith auto-graphed copies of his book "Whirlwind" about Dr. Robert Walter Johnson, tennis coach for Arthur Ashe and Althea Gibson, black tennis stars.

The Earth Conservation Corps display at SWNA's black history program.



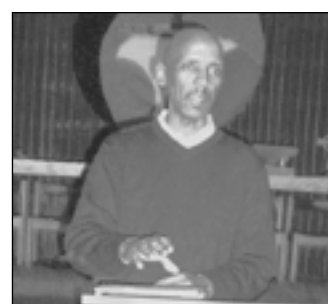
Jefferson Jr. High teacher, Peter Phelps, introduced student Sean Patterson, editor of the student newspaper Jefferson Journal.



Amidon Elementary School's display "Reconciling The Old & The New."



Frederick Douglas' newspaper The North Star was an inspiration for Jefferson Jr. students publishing their own paper, Jefferson Journal.



Jefferson Jr. PTA president Ahmad Nuriddin addressed the audience.



The History Makers display at SWNA's black history program.



South Washington Collaborative displayed photos of many of their activities.

AWC Environmental Standards

Opening to sunlight and air a stream that had been in a culvert for years – to make the Canal Park near M St. SE between the two 2nd Sts. SE – is an example of the many efforts at "greening" the Anacostia River Watershed being undertaken by the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation.

New environmental standards to require contractors and developers on AWC land to follow "green" practices are under consideration by AWC.

At its board meeting Feb. 28 public comments were heard on the standards.

After public comments, the AWC will adopt final standards "later this spring."

Ron McBee Elected to ANC6D

At an election to fill the seat on Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D vacated by Mary Williams, voters on the city list of registered voters cast their votes at an ANC meeting at St. Augustine's Church Mar. 12.

Ron McBee, SWNA Board member, and Dr. Clarence Brown, professor at Howard U & UDC, were the only two on the ballot.

SW Kiwanis Seeks New Members

The SW Kiwanis Club is part of a global organization of KIWANIS' with members and chapters throughout the world. Its mission is, "Changing the world, one child and one community at a time". The SW Waterfront Kiwanis Chapter is seeking new members. The work of the local club supports the youth of the Southwest community by contributing to a variety of activities, such as the Boy's and Girl's Club, school supplies for students at the

Bowen Elementary School, winter clothing and holiday baskets.

This year the Club plans to extend its outreach to several new goals.

You too can help. Membership requires attending two one-hour meetings a month plus a modest membership fee. To find out more, e-mail Emma Smith at, e10smith@aol.com or Howard N. Johnson at, hojohn301@aol.com or call (202) 488-3916.



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The DC Sports & Entertainment Commission

Will Hold a Public Meeting on
Initial Recommendations for

The New Washington Nationals Ballpark Traffic Operations & Parking Plan (TOPP)

Thursday, March 29th 6:30-8:30 pm
At Southeastern University
501 I Street, SW
Washington, DC

The public is invited to learn about the recommendations for the TOPP and to discuss issues pertaining to traffic planning for the new Ballpark District and nearby neighborhoods. Representatives from the DC Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Police Department, the Washington Nationals and the Sports Commission will be on hand.

To find out more call the DCSEC New Ballpark Hotline at 202-608-1112 or visit www.WashDCSports.com



a riverfront revival

Transforming the Anacostia Waterfront

Years of shameful neglect and irresponsible behavior have turned the Anacostia River – once a treasured natural resource – into one of the nation’s most polluted rivers. The communities along the Anacostia Waterfront have also suffered, having never fully realized the benefits of economic development and revitalization enjoyed by other areas of the city.

In March 2000, the Government of the District of Columbia and 20 local and Federal agencies joined in an historic partnership to transform the Anacostia Waterfront. Informed by input from more than 5,000 District residents, the partnership resulted in a 20-year vision to restore the Anacostia as a clean and active river, expand community access to the river, create an interconnected riverpark system, celebrate the heritage of the river and its communities, and ensure that the economic benefits of waterfront restoration and revitalization help to build strong, sustainable communities East of the River.

The Anacostia Waterfront Initiative Framework Plan recommended the creation of a single waterfront entity to focus solely on implementing the vision, noting the significant coordination challenges presented by this ambitious effort. Based on the best practices of other cities that have executed waterfront development plans, the Council of the District of Columbia created the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation in 2004 to implement the multi-year plan to reclaim the river and return the waterfront and surrounding communities to their rightful place as treasured and valued assets for the city for years to come.

AWC Projects

1 WASHINGTON FISH WHARF
Washington’s historic open-air seafood market

2 SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT
A premiere waterfront destination, just steps from the National Mall

3 DIAMOND TEAGUE PARK
A new esplanade connecting the Washington Nationals ballpark to the Anacostia River

4 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET WATERFRONT
A waterfront destination with new mixed-use housing and retail near the Washington Nationals ballpark

5 POPLAR POINT
A new mixed-use, mixed-income neighborhood and signature waterfront park reconnecting Historic Anacostia with the River

6 ANACOSTIA METRO STATION
A new economic development hub for Historic Anacostia

7 FIRST STREET LANDING
New mixed-use housing and retail next to the Washington Nationals ballpark

8 WATERFRONT PARK AT THE YARDS
A unique five-acre park destination with dining and shops

9 WASHINGTON CANAL PARK
A new public park on the site of the historic Washington Canal in the heart of the revitalized Capitol Riverfront

10 BOAT HOUSE ROW
A community place for boating and watersports


11 HILL EAST WATERFRONT
A vibrant new waterfront community connecting Capitol Hill to the Anacostia Waterfront

12 ANACOSTIA RIVERWALK
A continuous 20-mile trail system linking public parks, plazas, and neighborhoods to the Anacostia River

13 KINGMAN ISLAND
A unique environmental park on the Anacostia River for education, observation, and recreation

14 KENILWORTH-PARKSIDE
A mixed-use, mixed-income gateway to the Ward 7 Waterfront


15 MARVIN GAYE PARK
A rejuvenated recreational park named for a world-renowned singer and native son



The Anacostia Waterfront Corporation
1100 New Jersey Avenue SE, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20003

www.anacostiawaterfront.net
202.406.4040

Key Project Sites



Green line indicates Anacostia Riverwalk



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Providing educational options and events year-round for your convenience and enjoyment, Southeastern University is your resource for classes ranging from Word and Web design to child development and entrepreneurship. Choose an occasional continuing education venture, a professional certificate, or degree, including online study from anywhere at anytime! Southeastern welcomes everyone!

Free events—films, lectures, performances—open to the community at the corner of 6th and I Streets!

April at Southeastern

17th Certificate in Entrepreneurship
Gain the tools for starting and managing your own business. Meets for 6 sessions at SunTrust Bank, 1445 New York Ave., NW. Call for details.

18th Career Fair, 1-6 pm
Meet employers on campus to learn about job opportunities. Open to students of all ages.

Next Quadmester begins June 25.
Registration begins May 7 for on site and online classes!

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SW/SE *Evolving*

So. Capitol St. Bridge Lane Closures

Repairs to the So. Capitol St. bridge across the Anacostia River are making it necessary for the DC Dept. of Transportation to close lanes in one direction on weekends. Northbound lanes heading into town have been closed several weekends from Fri. am to Mon. am., being reopened in time for the morning rush hour.

Traffic has been rerouted across the 11th St. Bridge. Pedestrian travel is supposed to be uninterrupted at this time.

Later this spring lanes outbound will have to be closed for repairs some weekends. In July and August all lanes on the bridge will be closed in both directions. At that time three blocks of the raised portion of the bridge at its north end will be lowered to become at-grade roadway with a new intersection at So. Capitol St. and Potomac Ave.

Traffic on N St. SW (for example) will then be able to cross So. Capitol in east and west directions.

Planning the 14th St. Bridge Corridor Underway

At Amidon Elementary School on I (Eye) St. S.W. the Federal Highway Administration on Feb. 27 held one of a series of meetings to study the Virginia and D.C. streets and highways leading to the 14th St. Bridge (Interstate Highway 395) across the Potomac River.

A Gateway Gazette explaining the Environmental Impact study of alternative changes is available at www.14thstreetbridgecorridoreis.com. An ad on page 11 of the March 2007 issue of The Southwester had a map of the study area extending beyond So. Capitol Street in DC and almost to Crystal City in Arlington County, VA.

Concern expressed by SW residents at the Feb. 27 meeting included fear that ramps will lead even more cars through residential areas in SW and into already congested intersections like So. Capitol and I (Eye) SW and So. Capitol and M SW. Fear was expressed that the soon to be opened up 4th St. SW will become a handy pass through for 14th St. Bridge commuters.



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- NEW ! Circulator bus now comes to Jenny's – 9th & Water St. SW
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